

A New Form of *Maniola jurtina* L. related to
M. jurtina ab. *postaurolancia* Leeds

By Major General C. G. LIPSCOMB*

The R.C.K. Collection in the Department of Entomology, British Museum (Nat. Hist.), contains a long series of *M. jurtina*. It includes the type specimen of ab. *postaurolancia*, captured at Gomshall, Surrey, in August 1948 by Miss Underhill, who at the time was S. G. Castle Russell's house-keeper.

The butterfly was shown at the South London Exhibition that year, and in an addendum on page 120 of the *Proceedings* for 1948-49, the variety is described as having "hindwings with the ochreous, orange or fulvous in the band mainly or wholly split up into long rays or wedges". It is figured on plate III fig. 4 in these same *Proceedings*, and is a rare and very distinctive variety.

For reasons by no means clear, another so far un-named form of this butterfly has become confused with *postaurolancia* and is referred to as such in recent publications. In this other form which, to save further confusion, I name *postmultifidus* ab. nov., the top half of the band on the underside of the hindwings remains entire; the lower half is broken up into well separated segments. Both these forms occur in both sexes but are not so distinct in the males. The plate accompanying this article illustrates the difference between them.

In the years that I have collected in Wiltshire and elsewhere I have never found both forms in the same colony, although I am told both occurred on the Gomshall Down. Here I know of only one limited area where *postaurolancia* now occasionally occurs, whereas the other form has turned up in a number of widely separated localities ranging from the New Forest to the Cotswolds.

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MEATHOP MOSS AND CATCRAG MOSS, WITHERSLACK NR. GRANGE-OVER-SANDS. — I wonder if I might ask readers should they wish to visit, to collect or to catch-and-release insects on the above, or any other Cumbria Naturalists' Trust reserve, would they please apply for a permit from the undersigned. My Council considers that to conserve the insect population, in addition to our efforts to conserve the habitat, it is necessary to know who, and how many entomologists are visiting the reserves and, if necessary, restrict members. Also, to use this information to request a report of their findings to add to our monitoring of the reserves. The Trust is now wardening the reserve and wardens have had to ask some collectors without permit, to leave. This must be very disappointing to entomologists who have come from south of England — and this has happened this year. — JOY KETCHEN, Conservation Officer, Lakefield Cottage, Near Sawrey, Ambleside, Cumbria LA22 0LB.